



# Re-employment services for unemployment claimants

July 2013  
Doc. #FS-0009-C

**Returning  
unemployment-  
benefit  
recipients to  
work is high  
priority**

The Employment Security Department makes it a high priority to help people who are receiving unemployment benefits return to work as quickly as possible. Keeping unemployment short helps workers, since unemployment benefits cover only a portion of their lost wages, and it helps contain employers' unemployment taxes. It also saves money for the unemployment trust fund, and productivity is better when employers' vacancies are filled quickly.

## Programs and services

Re-employment services are available at WorkSource employment centers throughout Washington. Employment Security is a partner in the WorkSource system.

Claimants are registered automatically at WorkSource when they file their initial unemployment claim. This allows them to be matched with job openings listed with WorkSource from the beginning of their claims.

People receiving unemployment benefits must document three job-search activities each week. These activities can include contacting employers about jobs and/or participating in WorkSource workshops.

**WorkSource  
quickly  
connects  
claimants with  
job information  
and services**

During the early weeks of their claims, individuals identified as "most likely to exhaust their unemployment benefits" are scheduled for a mandatory WorkSource orientation workshop. There they learn about their job-search obligations and what WorkSource can do to help them return to work. More than 79,000 claimants attended during the July 2011-June 2012 fiscal year. Those who fail to report for the workshop or other mandatory services can lose their unemployment benefits. The workshop included:

- Employability and skill assessments.
- Information about employment services available at WorkSource.
- A re-employment services summary.
- Labor-market information.
- Job referrals. When appropriate, claimants also are referred to more-intensive services and training opportunities, including the Training Benefits and Commissioner-Approved Training programs.

**Claimants who  
don't look for  
work can lose  
their benefits**

More than 90,000 claimants got jobs after participating in WorkSource services during calendar year 2011.

## Job searches are verified

The state legislature enacted the Job-Search Review Program in 1998. Claimants are scheduled to report to WorkSource on a random basis to review the employer contacts they recorded on their job-search logs. In addition, their identification is verified, WorkSource helps them create a plan to return to work, and they receive referrals to job openings. More than 43,000 claimants received job-search reviews during the 2011-12 fiscal year.

## Contacts

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